Applicant : Dipan D. Patel
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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 111.   (Canceled)

112.   (New) A method comprising:

generating, by a set top box, a trigger to check whether the set top box is to invoke update code that is continuously streamed to the set top box by a server on a predetermined channel;

receiving, by the set top box in response to the trigger, an m-bit update flag;

accessing, by the set top box, an n-bit unique hardware identifier assigned to the set top box;

comparing, by the set top box, the m-bit update flag to a predetermined portion of the n-bit unique hardware identifier;

determining, based on comparing the m-bit update flag to the predetermined portion of the n-bit unique hardware identifier, that the m-bit update flag matches the predetermined portion of the n-bit unique hardware identifier; and

invoking, by the set top box, the update code based on determining that the m-bit update flag matches the predetermined portion of the n-bit unique hardware identifier.

113.   (New) The method of claim 112, further comprising determining that the update code is a newer version of code that exists on the set top box, wherein the update code is invoked based on determining that the update code is a newer version of code that exists on the set top box.

114.   (New) The method of claim 112, further comprising determining that the set top box has been booted or rebooted, wherein the trigger is generated based on determining that the set top box has been booted or rebooted.

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115. (New) The method of claim 112, further comprising determining that a predetermined period of time has elapsed, wherein the trigger is generated based on determining that the predetermined period of time has elapsed.

116. (New) The method of claim 112, further comprising receiving a user selection, wherein the trigger is generated based on receiving the user selection.

117. (New) The method of claim 112, further comprising receiving a confirmation from the user that the update code is to be invoked, wherein the update code is invoked based on receiving the confirmation from the user.

118. (New) The method of claim 112, wherein invoking the update code further comprises identifying a future predetermined time in which the set top box is to download and run other code from the predetermined channel.

119. (New) A method comprising:

determining, by a server, a quantity of set top boxes to update;

determining a quantity, n, of bits in an n-bit unique hardware identifier assigned to each set top box;

selecting, by the server, a value, m, based on the quantity of set top boxes to update and the quantity, n;

generating, by the server, an m-bit update flag;

including, by the server, the m-bit update flag in update code; and

continuously streaming, by the server, the update code, including the m-bit update flag, to the set top boxes on a predetermined channel.

120. (New) The method of claim 119, further comprising:

after streaming the update code to the set top boxes, determining a quantity of users that have provided feedback for the update code.

121.   (New) The method of claim 120, further comprising:

determining, by the server, a second quantity of set top boxes to update based on the quantity of users that have provided feedback for the update code;

selecting, by the server, a value, o, based on the second quantity of set top boxes to update and the quantity, n;

generating, by the server, an o-bit update flag;

including, by the server, the o-bit update flag in update code; and

continuously streaming, by the server, the update code, including the o-bit update flag, to the set top boxes on the predetermined channel.

122.   (New) A system comprising:

one or more computers; and

a computer-readable medium coupled to the one or more computers having instructions stored thereon which, when executed by the one or more computers, cause the one or more computers to perform operations comprising:

generating, by a set top box, a trigger to check whether the set top box is to invoke update code that is continuously streamed to the set top box by a server on a predetermined channel,

receiving, by the set top box in response to the trigger, an m-bit update flag,

accessing, by the set top box, an n-bit unique hardware identifier assigned to the set top box,

comparing, by the set top box, the m-bit update flag to a predetermined portion of the n-bit unique hardware identifier,

determining, based on comparing the m-bit update flag to the predetermined portion of the n-bit unique hardware identifier, that the m-bit update flag matches the predetermined portion of the n-bit unique hardware identifier, and

invoking, by the set top box, the update code based on determining that the m-bit update flag matches the predetermined portion of the n-bit unique hardware identifier.

123. (New) The system of claim 122, wherein the operations further comprise determining that the update code is a newer version of code that exists on the set top box, wherein the update code is invoked based on determining that the update code is a newer version of code that exists on the set top box.

124. (New) The system of claim 122, wherein the operations further comprise determining that the set top box has been booted or rebooted, wherein the trigger is generated based on determining that the set top box has been booted or rebooted.

125. (New) The system of claim 122, wherein the operations further comprise determining that a predetermined period of time has elapsed, wherein the trigger is generated based on determining that the predetermined period of time has elapsed.

126. (New) The system of claim 122, wherein the operations further comprise receiving a user selection, wherein the trigger is generated based on receiving the user selection.

127. (New) The system of claim 122, wherein the operations further comprise receiving a confirmation from the user that the update code is to be invoked, wherein the update code is invoked based on receiving the confirmation from the user.

128. (New) The system of claim 122, wherein invoking the update code further comprises identifying a future predetermined time in which the set top box is to download and run other code from the predetermined channel.

129. (New) A system comprising:
    one or more computers; and
    a computer-readable medium coupled to the one or more computers having instructions stored thereon which, when executed by the one or more computers, cause the one or more computers to perform operations comprising:
        determining, by a server, a quantity of set top boxes to update,

determining a quantity, n, of bits in an n-bit unique hardware identifier assigned to each set top box,

selecting, by the server, a value, m, based on the quantity of set top boxes to update and the quantity, n,

generating, by the server, an m-bit update flag,

including, by the server, the m-bit update flag in update code, and

continuously streaming, by the server, the update code, including the m-bit update flag, to the set top boxes on a predetermined channel.

130. (New) The system of claim 129, wherein the operations further comprise:

after streaming the update code to the set top boxes, determining a quantity of users that have provided feedback for the update code.

131. (New) The system of claim 130, wherein the operations further comprise:

determining, by the server, a second quantity of set top boxes to update based on the quantity of users that have provided feedback for the update code;

selecting, by the server, a value, o, based on the second quantity of set top boxes to update and the quantity, n;

generating, by the server, an o-bit update flag;

including, by the server, the o-bit update flag in update code; and

continuously streaming, by the server, the update code, including the o-bit update flag, to the set top boxes on the predetermined channel.

132. (New) A computer storage medium encoded with a computer program, the program comprising instructions that when executed by one or more computers cause the one or more computers to perform operations comprising:

generating, by a set top box, a trigger to check whether the set top box is to invoke update code that is continuously streamed to the set top box by a server on a predetermined channel;

receiving, by the set top box in response to the trigger, an m-bit update flag;

accessing, by the set top box, an *n*-bit unique hardware identifier assigned to the set top box;

comparing, by the set top box, the *m*-bit update flag to a predetermined portion of the *n*-bit unique hardware identifier;

determining, based on comparing the *m*-bit update flag to the predetermined portion of the *n*-bit unique hardware identifier, that the *m*-bit update flag matches the predetermined portion of the *n*-bit unique hardware identifier; and

invoking, by the set top box, the update code based on determining that the *m*-bit update flag matches the predetermined portion of the *n*-bit unique hardware identifier.

133.   (New) The computer storage medium of claim 132, wherein the operations further comprise determining that the update code is a newer version of code that exists on the set top box, wherein the update code is invoked based on determining that the update code is a newer version of code that exists on the set top box.

134.   (New) The computer storage medium of claim 132, wherein the operations further comprise determining that the set top box has been booted or rebooted, wherein the trigger is generated based on determining that the set top box has been booted or rebooted.

135.   (New) The computer storage medium of claim 132, wherein the operations further comprise determining that a predetermined period of time has elapsed, wherein the trigger is generated based on determining that the predetermined period of time has elapsed.

136.   (New) The computer storage medium of claim 132, wherein the operations further comprise receiving a user selection, wherein the trigger is generated based on receiving the user selection.

137.   (New) The computer storage medium of claim 132, wherein the operations further comprise receiving a confirmation from the user that the update code is to be invoked, wherein the update code is invoked based on receiving the confirmation from the user.

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138. (New) The computer storage medium of claim 132, wherein invoking the update code further comprises identifying a future predetermined time in which the set top box is to download and run other code from the predetermined channel.

139. (New) A computer storage medium encoded with a computer program, the program comprising instructions that when executed by one or more computers cause the one or more computers to perform operations comprising:

determining, by a server, a quantity of set top boxes to update;

determining a quantity, n, of bits in an n-bit unique hardware identifier assigned to each set top box;

selecting, by the server, a value, m, based on the quantity of set top boxes to update and the quantity, n;

generating, by the server, an m-bit update flag;

including, by the server, the m-bit update flag in update code; and

continuously streaming, by the server, the update code, including the m-bit update flag, to the set top boxes on a predetermined channel.

140. (New) The computer storage medium of claim 139, wherein the operations further comprise:

after streaming the update code to the set top boxes, determining a quantity of users that have provided feedback for the update code.

141. (New) The computer storage medium of claim 140, wherein the operations further comprise:

determining, by the server, a second quantity of set top boxes to update based on the quantity of users that have provided feedback for the update code;

selecting, by the server, a value, o, based on the second quantity of set top boxes to update and the quantity, n;

generating, by the server, an o-bit update flag;

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including, by the server, the *o*-bit update flag in update code; and

continuously streaming, by the server, the update code, including the *o*-bit update flag, to the set top boxes on the predetermined channel.